(d) the details of the action taken/proposed in this regard during the current and the next year?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYA NARAYAN J ATI Y A): (a) to (d) The Sathyam Committee constituted by the Government visited and reviewed the functioning of ESI Scheme in Maharashtra along with some other States. The recommendations of the Sathyam Committee are in the process of implementation at both ESIC and State Government level. On the basis of the proposals received from the State Government the ESI Corporation has sanctioned equipments worth Rs. 7.50 crore to upgrade/modernize the services in ESIC hospitals /dispensaries in Maharashtra. The ESI Corporation has also paid an advance of Rs. 3.26 crore to the State Government of Maharashtra to enable them to purchase the equipments.

National Highways Development Fund

*269. SHRI RAJU PARMAR:
SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that under the National Highways Development Fund Government have to spend more than Rs. 50,000 crore for road building activity and highways in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government have not utilised the earlier amount of Rs. 2500 crore under the Fund; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: (a) and (b) Presumably the Hon'ble Member is referring to National Highways Development Project (NHDP) under which the Government has undertaken 4/6 laning in 13252 km. of National Highways consisting of Golden Quadrilateral (GQ) connecting the four metropolitan cities of Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai

and Kolkata having a length of 5952 km. as well as North-South and East-West corridors (NS/EW) connecting Srinagar in Jammu and Kashmir with Kanyakumari and Silchar with Porbandar having a length of 7300 km. The total estimated cost of NHDP is Rs. 54,000 crore.

(c) Total grants made to NHAI during the last 5 years is Rs. 5060 crore while the expenditure made is Rs. 2815 crore.

(d) The projects in the initial stages require less funds. Now, the expenditure has picked up and during the year 2001-2002 anticipated expenditure is about Rs. 5000 crore.

Growth Rate

*270. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the actual growth rate in the country during the year 2000-2001 as per the Central Statistical Organisation;

(b) the reasons for poor performance in all the sectors; and

(c) the policy measures taken to reverse the present declining trend and economic lethargy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) The 'Revised Estimates of Annual National Income and Quarterly Estimates of Gross Domestic Product 2000-01% released by the Central Statistical Organisation, indicate that the growth rate in the country, measured by the growth rate of Gross Domestic Product at factor cost at 1993-94 prices, is estimated as 5.2%.

(b) The main reasons for poor performance, among others, are the continuing slow growth of agriculture, shortfall in public investment and poor implementation. The sectoral growth rates (measured in terms of gross value added at factor cost) during 1999-2000 and 2000-01 is given in the statement (See below). All the sectors, except for 'mining and quarrying' have experienced lower growth rate in the year 2000-01 compared to that in 1999-2000.

(c) The measures to promote and achieve higher growth, *inter alia,* include speeding up of agricultural reforms; intensification of